

What is claimed is:

1. A portable radio telephone comprising:

(a) a radio section for receiving an input radio signal and/or

5 transmitting an output radio signal;

(b) a power supply controller for controlling supply of electric power to the radio section responsive to reception of a power-off signal;

10 the power-off signal being transmitted from a power-off signal transmitter provided in a prohibited area where use of a portable radio telephone is prohibited; and

(c) a power-off signal sensor for sensing reception of the power-off signal to notify the power supply controller of reception of the power-off signal;

15 wherein when the power-off signal sensor senses reception of the power-off signal, the power supply controller stops supply of electric power to the radio section while keeping additional built-in functions other than communication function operable;

20 and wherein when the power-off signal sensor does not sense reception of the power-off signal, the power supply controller continues supply of electric power to the radio section.

2. The telephone according to claim 1, further comprising a connection controller;

wherein the connection controller sends a stop signal to a relating base station to the telephone to stop a connection operation of the base station to the telephone when the power supply controller stops the supply of electric power to the radio section;

- 5           and wherein the connection controller sends a stop release signal to the relating base station to the telephone to restart the connection operation of the base station to the telephone when the power supply controller restarts the supply of electric power to the radio section.

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3. The telephone according to claim 1, wherein the power-off signal sensor senses the reception of the power-off signal independent of whether the radio section operates or not.

- 15   4. The telephone according to claim 2, wherein the power-off signal sensor senses the reception of the power-off signal independent of whether the radio section operates or not.

5. The telephone according to claim 1, further comprising a  
20 non-volatile storage for storing a power-off signal reception code;

          wherein when the power-off signal sensor senses reception of the power-off signal, the power-off signal reception code is stored in the storage and kept unchanged even after the telephone is turned off;

and wherein when the telephone is turned on, it is judged whether the power-off signal reception code is stored in the storage or not;

and wherein if the power-off signal reception code is stored  
5 in the storage, the power supply controller keeps the supply of electric power to the radio section stopped;

and wherein if the power-off signal reception code is not stored in the storage, the power supply controller restarts the supply of electric power to the radio section.

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6. The telephone according to claim 1, wherein when the power-off signal sensor does not sense reception of the power-off release signal, the power-off signal reception code stored in the storage is deleted.

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7. The telephone according to claim 1, further comprising a power-off release signal sensor for sensing reception of a power-off release signal to notify the power supply controller of reception of the power-off release signal;

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wherein the power-off release signal is transmitted from a power-off release signal transmitter in such a way that the power-off release signal sensor senses the power-off release signal when the telephone is carried out of the prohibited area.

8. The telephone according to claim 1, wherein when the power-off signal is received, a fact that communication function is inoperable is displayed on a screen of a display section.

5 9. The telephone according to claim 1, wherein the power supply to the radio section can be manually stopped or started by a specific key operation made by the user.

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10 10. The telephone according to claim 1, wherein the power supply to the radio section can be manually stopped or started by a specific key operation made by the user only when the telephone has not received the power-off signal.

11. A method of controlling a portable radio telephone, comprising  
15 the steps of:

(a) providing a power-off signal transmitter for transmitting a power-off signal in a prohibited area where use of a portable radio telephone is prohibited;

(b) providing a power-off signal sensor for sensing reception  
20 of the power-off signal on a portable radio telephone;

the telephone having a radio section for receiving an input radio signal and/or transmitting an output radio signal;

(c) judging whether the power-off signal sensor senses reception of the power-off signal or not; and

(d) stopping supply of electric power to the radio section of the telephone while keeping additional built-in functions of the telephone other than communication function operable if the power-off signal sensor senses reception of the power-off signal

5 in the step (c);

the supply of electric power to the radio section of the telephone being continued if reception of the power-off signal is not sensed in the step (c).

10 12. The method according to claim 11, further comprising a step of providing a connection controller on the telephone;

wherein the connection controller sends a stop signal to a relating base station to the telephone to stop a connection operation of the base station to the telephone when the power supply

15 controller stops the supply of electric power to the radio section;

and wherein the connection controller sends a stop release signal to the relating base station to the telephone to restart the connection operation of the base station to the telephone when the power supply controller restarts the supply of electric power

20 to the radio section.

13. The method according to claim 11, wherein the reception of the power-off signal is carried out by the power-off signal sensor independent of whether the radio section operates or not.

14. The method according to claim 12, wherein the reception of the power-off signal is carried out by the power-off signal sensor independent of whether the radio section operates or not.

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15. The method according to claim 11, further comprising a step of providing a non-volatile storage for storing a power-off signal reception code on the telephone;

wherein when the power-off signal sensor senses reception  
10 of the power-off signal, the power-off signal reception code is stored in the storage and kept unchanged even after the telephone is turned off;

and wherein when the telephone is turned on, it is judged whether the power-off signal reception code is stored in the storage  
15 or not;

and wherein if the power-off signal reception code is stored in the storage, the power supply controller keeps the supply of electric power to the radio section stopped;

and wherein if the power-off signal reception code is not  
20 stored in the storage, the power supply controller restarts the supply of electric power to the radio section.

16. The method according to claim 11, wherein when the power-off signal sensor does not sense reception of the power-off release

signal, the power-off signal reception code stored in the storage is deleted.

17. The method according to claim 11, further comprising a step  
5 of providing a power-off release signal sensor for sensing reception of a power-off release signal to notify the power supply controller of reception of the power-off release signal on the telephone;

wherein the power-off release signal is transmitted from a power-off release signal transmitter in such a way that the  
10 power-off release signal sensor senses the power-off release signal when the telephone is carried out of the prohibited area.

18. The method according to claim 11, further comprising a step  
of displaying a fact that communication function is inoperable on  
15 a screen of a display section when the power-off signal is received.